

Preview: Bees back on the road looking for win over Silver Knights in Nashua



Tuesday, June 1 the 2-1 Bees will be back on the road in their first meeting with the 0-2 Nashua Silver Knights this season. Coming off a 6-1 win Monday over the Pittsfield Suns, New Britain is looking to build their first winning-streak of the season.

Through three games this season the Bees pitching has been excellent. Overall, they have allowed only nine total runs (six earned), six of which came in the third inning on Opening Day. Since that one difficult period, the Bees have given up only three runs across 24 total innings. New Britain's bullpen is yet to surrender a run this season.

Manager Donnie McKillop is trusting Colin Blake to keep the score low on Tuesday. The 6-foot-4 righty just completed his freshman year at Hartford College, during which he posted a 6.60 earned-run-average while earning 13 strikeouts in five appearances. He was a star in highschool, earning All-State First Team honors his junior year at Lyman Hall highschool, and he will be counted on as a big piece of the Bees' starting rotation.

In his first appearance for New Britain, infielder Michael Hernandez quickly endeared himself to Bees fans Monday when he stroked a game-tying base hit to left field in the seventh inning that would spark a 6-run rally. He reached base safely in three of his four total plate appearances. Jake Hyde meanwhile punctuated the rally Hernandez started by clearing the bases with a 3-RBI double off the well in center field. Expect both to be in the lineup Tuesday.

Nashua's pitching has been largely solid through two games, but their offense has been lackluster to say the least. In their back-to-back losses to the Worcester Bravehearts, the Silver Knights have been outscored by a total of 9-6. The larger problem is that they're not getting any production from their infield. Five of the team's nine total hits and three of their five RBI's have come off the bats of outfielders Trey Ciulla-Hall and Kevin Skagerlind. The rest of the lineup has struggled immensely.

The first pitch of Tuesday's game will be at 6:00 p.m. eastern.